IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 19 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- This application is a divisional of U.S. Ser. No. 10/162,850, which was a continuation of U.S. Ser. No. 09/492,950, now U.S. Patent No. 6,440,895 _____, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Ser. No. 09/123,781, now U.S. Patent No. 6,479,428, all ~~both~~ of which are incorporated by reference. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 22 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The invention further provides a catalytic process comprising passage of at least one reactant into a reaction chamber comprising the inventive catalyst, conversion of said at least one reactant into at least one product, and passage of the product out of the reaction chamber. In a preferred embodiment, the catalytic process is conducted in a apparatus having microchannels. Examples of suitable microchannel apparatus and various process related factors are described in U.S. Patents Nos. 5,611,214, 5,811,062, 5,534,328, 6,129,973, 6,200,536, 6,451,864, 6,540,975, 6,440,895, 6,616,909, 6,488,838, and 6,192,596 ~~U.S. Patent Applications Ser. Nos. 09/375,610, 09/123,779, _____ (attorney docket no. B-1479), cofiled U.S. Patent Applications serial nos. 09/492,246 (filed Jan. 27, 2000), _____ (attorney docket no. E-1664), 09/375,614 (filed Aug. 17, 1999) and 09/265,227 (filed Mar. 8, 1999)~~, all of which are incorporated by reference as if reproduced in full below. In another preferred embodiment, the catalyst is a monolith - a single contiguous, yet porous, piece of catalyst or several contiguous pieces that are stacked together (not a bed of packed powder or pellets or a coating on the wall of a microchannel) that can easily be inserted and extracted from a reaction chamber. The piece or stack of catalyst pieces preferably have a width of 0.1 mm to about 2 cm, with a preferred thickness of less than 1 cm, more preferably, about 1 to about 3 mm. The inventive catalyst may provide numerous advantages to catalytic processes such as: chemical stability, stability to

repeated thermal cycling, thermal stability, efficient loading and unloading of catalysts, high rates of heat transfer and mass transfer, and maintenance of desired catalytic activity. --